

***Fairfax-Falls Church  
CONTINUUM OF CARE  
2006  
POINT IN TIME SURVEY***

***Summary Report***

***March 27, 2006***

***Fairfax County, Virginia***

**Purpose:**

***The Point In Time Survey was designed to:***

- Provide an unduplicated count of homeless persons in our community
- Identify characteristics of the homeless population
- Identify services needed by homeless persons
- Provide data to identify gaps in programs and services for homeless persons
- Provide some demographic information such as age group, race/ethnicity, and income levels for homeless persons

***The Point In Time Survey was not designed to:***

- Provide explanations of the cause of homelessness, or
- Provide detailed client information

## Who Was Surveyed?

- More than 20 private non-profit and faith-based organizations that provide services to homeless persons
- County agencies, including Department of Family Services and Community Services Board, and the City of Falls Church
- The survey identified and gathered information from over 60 homeless assistance programs including:
  - emergency shelters (including overflow programs)
  - transitional housing programs
  - permanent supportive housing
  - outreach and mobile service programs
  - drop-in centers
  - alcohol/drug programs
  - mental health care programs

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## Summary of Survey Findings

- A total of 2,077 persons were identified as meeting the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development definition of homelessness on January 25, 2006.
- 934 (45%) were single individuals (or couples) with no children living with them
  - 667 of these individuals were literally homeless, living on the street, in emergency shelters, overnight programs, or time-limited transitional housing
- 1,143 (55%) were persons in families with children
  - 333 families with 419 adults and 724 children
- 34% of the total homeless population are children under 18
  - 699 children under 18, and 25 children age 18 or older living in families
- Nearly half of all homeless adults are employed
  - 28% of single adults are employed
  - 62% of persons age 18-64 in families are employed

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## Number of Homeless Persons Over the Past 8 Years

|                     | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Individuals         | 657  | 741  | 742  | 782  | 769  | 816  | 800  | 934  |
| Persons in Families | 1132 | 1272 | 1193 | 1285 | 1175 | 1110 | 1149 | 1143 |
| Total               | 1789 | 2013 | 1935 | 2067 | 1944 | 1926 | 1949 | 2077 |

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## Characteristics of Homeless *Single Individuals*

- 45% of the homeless population are individuals or couples with no children living with them
- 69% are male and 31% are female
- 53% are white; 35% are black; 12% are of other races
- 9% are Hispanic (of any race)
- 28% of homeless single individuals are employed
- 75% have incomes at or below poverty (\$9,570 for 1 person)
  - 20% have incomes between poverty and 50% of area median
  - Only 5% have incomes above 50% of area median income
- 45% of individuals are chronically homeless
- 24% of individuals were unsheltered on the date of the survey
  - 22% were both chronically homeless and unsheltered

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## Subpopulations of Individuals

|                                | 1999       | 2000       | 2001       | 2002       | 2003       | 2004       | 2005       | 2006       |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Chronic Substance Abusers      | 25%        | 24%        | 23%        | 21%        | 20%        | 19%        | 17%        | 22%        |
| Seriously Mental Ill           | 40%        | 35%        | 34%        | 34%        | 30%        | 36%        | 33%        | 35%        |
| Dually – Diagnosed             | 20%        | 27%        | 31%        | 29%        | 32%        | 33%        | 30%        | 30%        |
| <b>Total</b><br>(Unduplicated) | <b>85%</b> | <b>86%</b> | <b>88%</b> | <b>84%</b> | <b>82%</b> | <b>88%</b> | <b>80%</b> | <b>87%</b> |

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## Subpopulations of Individuals, *cont'd*

|                              | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Health Problems              | n/a  | 26%  | 24%  | 22%  | 26%  | 30%  | 31%  | 31%  |
| Physically Disabled          | 9%   | 9%   | 6%   | 7%   | 8%   | 10%  | 9%   | 9%   |
| Veterans                     | 9%   | 7%   | 7%   | 8%   | 7%   | 8%   | 8%   | 7%   |
| Language Minority            | n/a  | n/a  | 10%  | 10%  | 8%   | 7%   | 8%   | 10%  |
| Domestic Violence            | 6%   | 6%   | 7%   | 6%   | 7%   | 6%   | 12%  | 7%   |
| AIDS/HIV                     | 3%   | 2%   | 2%   | 1%   | 2%   | 2%   | 1%   | 1%   |
| Homeless from an institution | n/a  | n/a  | n/a  | n/a  | n/a  | n/a  | 17%  | 16%  |

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## Number of Homeless Families

|                     | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Persons in Families | 1132 | 1272 | 1193 | 1285 | 1175 | 1110 | 1149 | 1143 |
| # of Families       | 320  | 363  | 341  | 356  | 335  | 325  | 333  | 333  |
| Average Family Size | 3.54 | 3.50 | 3.50 | 3.61 | 3.51 | 3.42 | 3.45 | 3.43 |

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## Characteristics of Homeless *Persons in Families*

- 55% of the total homeless population are persons in families
- 333 homeless families with 1,143 persons
- Average family size is 3.43 persons, and 80% of families have a single head of household (95% of these are females)
- 37% of persons in families are adults; 63% are children
- 82% of adults are female, 18% are male; children are 50% each
- 16% are white; 65% are black; 19% are of other races
- 13% are Hispanic (of any race)
- 62% of persons aged 18-64 in families are employed
- 60% of homeless families have incomes at or below poverty
  - 35% have incomes between poverty and 50% of median
  - Only 5% have incomes above 50% of area median income

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## **Characteristics of Homeless *Subpopulations in Families***

- 26% of persons in families (including children) are victims of domestic violence
- 25% are language minorities
- 4% have chronic health problems
- 2% have a physical disability
- 3% were homeless for a year or more
- 4% are seriously mentally ill, chronic substance abusers or dually diagnosed
- 5% were listed with other subpopulation characteristics
- 45% had no identified subpopulation category

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## **Summary Report *Prepared for the:***

Community Planning Collaborative on Homelessness

Design by the Community Planning Committee,  
Point-in-Time Survey subcommittee

Data collection and compilation by the Fairfax County  
Department of Systems Management for Human Services

March 27, 2006

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